

Chester Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Dr. W. A. Pollitt, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)

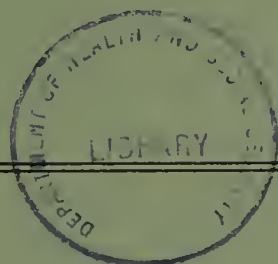
and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(E. Clarkson, M.A.P.H.I.)

for the year

1968



ANNUAL REPORT
of the Medical Officer of Health for the
CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT for the Year 1968

To THE CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the COUNCIL.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Chester Rural District for the year 1968.

The adjusted birth rate has now taken an upward trend and is 18.62 compared with the rate of 17.68 for the year 1967. The total number of births being 43 higher than last year. The birth rate for England and Wales was 16.9 per thousand live births. The adjusted death rate is 10.01 compared with 9.04 for 1967. The death rate for England and Wales is 11.9 per thousand of the population. There were no maternal deaths during the year. Six children died under the age of 1 year, 3 of these dying within the first week of life. Such deaths in the first week are usually associated with difficult deliveries or congenital abnormalities of the child.

Measles and dysentery are the most common of the notifiable diseases. During the year the expected Immunisation campaign against measles was started by the Ministry of Health in the middle of the year. However, unfortunately before the campaign could get fully into its stride, one of the two main vaccines being used in the campaign had to be withdrawn and therefore no marked impact on the frequency of infection has resulted. This is the first year that infective hepatitis has been classified as a notifiable disease and we have had four cases notified during the year.

The co-operation between this Department and hospitals in the Rural District area continues in the most satisfactory manner. Members of the Public Health staff pay periodic visits to the hospitals and give advice on a variety of topics. These have ranged from advice concerning fly infestations to the suitable disposal of waste food, including the proposition that consideration should be given to the installation of waste disposal units so that waste food particles would be flushed into the drains.

My report as Divisional Medical Officer for the South West Cheshire County Council, of which the rural district forms a part, is to be found at the end of the report.

I wish to thank the Chief Public Health Inspector and the staff of the Health Department for their help and assistance during the year.

I am, Madam,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. A. POLLITT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,

CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of Public Health Committee:

MRS. E. TAYLOR

Public Health Department Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

DR. W. A. POLLITT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

E. CLARKSON, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

W. M. COBDEN, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

I. D. MacMASTER, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

MRS. S. WILLIAMS

Shorthand Typist-Clerk:

MRS. D. CHECKLEY

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service has a district Laboratory available in Chester under its Director, Dr. Poole, where the examination of bacteriological specimens is undertaken.

Ambulance Services

These are provided by the Cheshire County Council, assisted by the Chester City ambulances acting as an agency service.

Nursing in the Home

Home Nursing is undertaken by District Nurses under the direction of the Cheshire County Council.

Clinics

County Council Clinics are provided in the following parts of the District:

Barrow	Infant Welfare
Great Boughton	Infant Welfare
Saughall	Infant Welfare
Elton	Infant Welfare
Chester	Orthodontics, Eye and Audiology Clinics, Cervical Smears
Christleton	Infant Welfare
Huntington	Infant Welfare
Upton	Infant Welfare, School and Dental Clinic

Special rural Clinics are also available by appointment as and when required, and include the screening tests of hearing of children under one year of age.

Hospitals

The District is served by the hospitals at Chester, Barrow, Clatterbridge and Liverpool. In addition to general services, the hospital at Barrow provides special treatment for diseases of the chest.

National Statistics

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1968 was 16.9 per 1,000 population, as compared with 17.2 for 1967.

The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1968 was 11.9 per 1,000 population. In 1967 the Death Rate was 11.2.

Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales, i.e. deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births was 18.0 compared with 18.3 in 1967.

Natural increase in population (i.e. excess of births over deaths) 1957-1968—England and Wales:

Year	Per 1,000 Pop.	Year	Per 1,000 Pop.
1957	4.6	1963	5.8
1958	4.7	1964	7.1
1959	4.9	1965	6.5
1960	5.6	1966	6.0
1961	5.4	1967	6.0
1962	6.0	1968	5.0

CHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

STATISTIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area: 43,500 acres.

Population, Mid-1968	33,890
Number of inhabited houses	10,318
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1968	£1,553,705
Product of 1d. Rate at 1st April, 1968	£6,372

The Council-owned houses total 1,463; no Council houses were built in 1968.

The number of private houses built in the year was 167.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1968

Births

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	304	282	586
Illegitimate	10	10	20

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population: 17.9.

Using Comparability Factor 1.04 the adjusted Birth Rate is 18.62.

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Rate per 1,000 Still Births: 13.

Total of Live and Still Births: 614.

Deaths

Male	Female	Total
225	260	485

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population: 14.3.

Using Comparability Factor of 0.70 the adjusted Death Rate is 10.01.

Deaths (due to maternal causes):

Pregnancy-Childbirth: Nil.

Deaths of Infants under one year:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate, i.e. per 1,000 live births: 10.

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age (Neo-natal deaths):

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	—	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under one week) per 1,000 total live and still births: 18.

Illegitimate live births as a percentage of total live births: 3.30 per cent.

Natural increase in population (that is, excess of births over deaths) 1957-1968:

Nat. Inc.			Nat. Inc.		
per			per		
1,000			1,000		
Year	Pop.	Pop.	Year	Pop.	Pop.
1957	27,740	1.26	1963	30,850	2.88
1958	27,380	0.04	1964	31,130	4.27
1959	27,840	2.11	1965	32,500	5.51
1960	28,250	2.3	1966	33,320	4.12
1961	28,170	2.69	1967	33,850	3.48
1962	30,190	4.5	1968	33,890	3.57

Table of number of Live Births and Crude Birth Rate, 1957-1968:

Year	No.	Birth Rate	Year	No.	Birth Rate
1957	357	12.8	1963	539	17.47
1958	416	15.19	1964	562	18.08
1959	425	15.26	1965	613	18.86
1960	442	15.64	1966	578	17.35
1961	476	15.64	1967	563	17.00
1962	547	18.13	1968	606	17.90

Table of number of Deaths and Crude Death Rate, 1957-1968:

			Death					Death	
Year			No.	Rate	Year			No.	Rate
1957	...	...	390	14.06	1963	...	...	450	14.91
1958	...	...	420	15.23	1964	...	...	429	13.78
1959	...	...	366	13.15	1965	...	...	434	13.35
1960	...	...	377	13.34	1966	...	...	441	13.23
1961	...	...	400	14.19	1967	...	...	445	13.10
1962	...	...	411	13.60	1968	...	...	485	14.30

Table of Infant Mortality, 1957-1968:

			Rate per 1,000					Rate per 1,000	
Year			No.	Births	Year			No.	Births
1957	...	...	8	22.4	1963	...	...	6	11.13
1958	...	...	7	16.8	1964	...	...	9	16.00
1959	...	...	8	18.8	1965	...	...	12	19.57
1960	...	...	7	15.8	1966	...	...	8	13.85
1961	...	...	10	21.0	1967	...	...	13	23.00
1962	...	...	12	21.0	1968	...	...	6	10.00

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough Nil

Particulars of unusual or excessive mortality during the year:

						Male	Fe- male	Total	In 1967
(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulat- ory System					79	91	170	159
(ii)	Cancer					42	37	79	63
(iii)	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System					36	45	81	83
(iv)	Cancer of Lungs (included in (ii) above)					18	3	21	9
(v)	Coronary Disease of Heart (inc. in (i) above)					55	47	102	72

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1968

									Male	Female
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System (including late effects)									1	1
Syphilitic Diseases									—	1
Other Infective or Parasitic Diseases									1	—
Cancer (all sites)									42	37
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia									—	2
Diabetes									3	—
Anaemias									1	2
Mental Disorders									1	3
Vascular Lesion of Nervous System									36	45

	Male	Female
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	79	91
Bronchitis, Emphysema, Asthma	17	11
Pneumonia	23	41
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	—
Appendicitis	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	1
Other Disease of Digestive System	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	3
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	2	5
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2	—
Congenital Malformations	2	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	1
Suicide	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	4
All other Accidents	2	3
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	1	1

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Prevalence of and control over Infectious and other diseases

The following notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year:

	Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	8
Whooping Cough	4
Measles	87
Dysentery	30
Food Poisoning	6
Infective Hepatitis	4
Acute Meningitis	1

Sonne Dysentery

There was an outbreak of Sonne dysentery at a school in the area. It was first noticed when there was an excessive number of absentees from the school suffering from bowel upset. In all, 264 faecal specimens were obtained and submitted to examination. 35 of the specimens were positive for Sonne dysentery. The actual number of persons involved with positive stools was 29.

Following the institution of routine sampling of specimens and the treatment of positive carriers the incidence of the illness decreased very quickly.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1968:

Cases:

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Under 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
25-44 years ...	—	1	—	—	1
45-64 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	—	1	—	—	1

Deaths:

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Under 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
25-44 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
45-64 years ...	—	1	—	—	1
65 years and over	1	—	—	—	1
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	1	1	—	—	2

MILK SUPPLY

The routine sampling of raw milk by officials of the Cheshire County Council continued, and two notifications of evidence of Brucella infection in milk were received.

Arrangements are then made for the milk in question to be pasteurised and further samples obtained until the infected animals are found and isolated from the remainder of the herd.

I am grateful to the County Council for the following information in respect of milk samples obtained during 1968 from this area.

	Total submitted	Positive Brucella
Bulk Samples	18	—
Dealer Samples	108	1
Individual Cow Samples	257	1
	<hr/> 383	<hr/> 2

There are 15 dairy herds in the district, from which raw milk is sold to the public, an increase of 1 from the previous year.

There was one case of *Brucella abortus* infection in a man of 23 years. This man has a herd of milking cows and has been in the habit of consuming raw milk from the herd. Advice concerning the drinking of pasteurised milk only, has been given.

SECTION 47 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

The provisions of the above Act enables the local authority to apply for compulsory removal to a Hostel or a Hospital of persons who are in need of care and attention, and who are unable to care for themselves. Much time and patience is devoted to the needs of the aged by a variety of workers, and every effort is made to avoid a compulsory removal of persons from their home.

No action was deemed to be necessary under this Section during the year although several persons within the category were persuaded by voluntary means to have either hostel or hospital care.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1968

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to present my report for 1968, a year which presented many difficulties, but also a year in which I feel very definite progress was made.

You will note from figures given in the report that once again the staffing of the refuse collection service has proved difficult, and of the 81 men engaged during the year to maintain a staff of 27 on regular collection service, 62 left within the 12 months, in fact, 17 of these men left before completing one week's work.

The alterations at the Depot have, however, now been completed and the workmen now have satisfactory messroom facilities, showers and locker accommodation in which wet clothing may be dried. The provision of these facilities and the extension of the paper sack system of refuse collection to the whole area, will I am sure, go a long way to solving the staff problem.

The coming into operation of the Civic Amenities Act has meant extra work for the department in respect of the removal of abandoned vehicles and other refuse dumped in the area, and in an attempt to minimise, if not prevent illegal dumping, the free collection service from dwelling houses, of any unwanted waste has been publicised on rate demand notes and in the Press. Unfortunately this service has not completely prevented the dumping of rubbish in the area, which has then to be cleared by Council workmen, often at considerable expense, and it seems completely illogical to me, that a person will risk prosecution for depositing his rubbish on the grass verge when the Council would collect the same rubbish free from his house at less cost, and this would reflect indirectly on the amount of rates he pays.

The itinerant caravan dwellers who frequent parts of the rural district, and who are extremely reluctant to move on, contribute considerably to the dumping that takes place and I can only repeat what I stated in my 1967 report, that the provision of sites on a national basis is the only practicable means of exercising control over these people and it is hoped that the operative date for existing legislation on these lines will be determined shortly.

Routine work in the department has progressed satisfactorily, and in view of the increasing volume of work approval was given for a further additional public health inspector to commence duty in January, 1969.

In conclusion, I wish to record my appreciation and thanks for the considerable help I have received from the Chairman, Mrs. Park-Taylor, and the members of the Public Health Committee. My thanks are also due to the staff of the department for their loyal support and assistance in ensuring the efficient and smooth running of the department generally.

I am,

Madam Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

E. CLARKSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The Wirral Water Board, the Chester Waterworks Company and the Wrexham and East Denbighshire Waterworks Company supply mains water throughout the district; the natural fluoride content of this water is negligible and none is added by the various Water Boards.

In respect of the four unsatisfactory samples indicated below, two were obtained from a house subject to a demolition order, and it was felt that the service pipe to the house had been damaged by adjacent building operations; this problem was resolved when the occupants of the house were re-housed and the service pipe disconnected.

Repeat samples of the remaining two unsatisfactory reports proved satisfactory and possibly the sampling bottles had been slightly contaminated.

The following table gives details of samples taken:

	No. taken	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Bacteriological Samples (Mains)	23	19	4
Bacteriological Samples (Private)	2	2	—
Chemical Samples (Mains)	—	—	—
Chemical Samples (Private)	—	—	—
	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 21	<hr/> 4

The number of dwellings and estimated population provided with a mains supply is given below:

Parish	No. of Dwellings	Est. Pop. supplied
Aldford	93	325
Bache	27	95
Backford	47	165
Barrow	298	1043
Bridge Trafford	13	45
Buerton	17	59
Capenhurst	96	363
Caughall	3	10
Chester Castle	1	2
Chorlton	24	84
Christleton	795	2782
Churton Heath	5	16

Parish	No. of Dwellings	Est. Pop. supplied
Claverton... ..	2	6
Dodleston	122	427
Dunham Hill... ..	159	556
Eaton	25	78
Eccleston... ..	89	311
Elton	252	738
Great Boughton	2411	8438
Guilden Sutton	229	809
Hapsford... ..	28	91
Hoole Village	102	350
Huntington	401	1399
Lea-by-Backford	56	196
Lea Newbold... ..	7	23
Ledsham... ..	42	134
Littleton	193	672
Little Stanney	71	248
Lower Kinnerton	39	127
Marlston-cum-Lache	29	94
Mickle Trafford	142	494
Mollington	176	610
Moston	74	244
Picton	23	86
Poulton	30	98
Puddington	108	378
Pulford	113	336
Rowton	115	395
Saighton	86	280
Saughall	828	2869
Shotwick... ..	20	65
Shotwick Park	21	69
Stoak	60	195
Thornton-le-Moors	65	206
Upton	2781	9733
Wervin	26	90
Wimbolds Trafford	32	101
Woodbank	24	84
	<hr/> 10400	<hr/> 36019

Drainage and Sewerage

Work continued during the year on the sewerage scheme for Elton and on the scheme to serve the parishes of Guilden Sutton, Mickle Trafford, Bridge Trafford and the Hoole Bank area.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

(A) Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	—	20	20
Retail Shops — ...	9	51	51
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	2	2
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens ...	—	43	43
Fuel Storage Depots	—	1	1
	<hr/> 9 <hr/>	<hr/> 117 <hr/>	<hr/> 117 <hr/>

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act—198.

(B) Analysis of Contraventions

Section	No. of Contraventions Found
4 Cleanliness	9
5 Overcrowding	—
6 Temperature	2
7 Ventilation	—
8 Lighting	—
9 Sanitary Conveniences	4
10 Washing Facilities	2
11 Supply of Drinking Water	—
12 Clothing Accommodation	4
13 Seating Facilities	—
14 Seats (Sedentary Workers)	—
15 Eating Facilities	—
16 Floors, Passages and Stairs	14
17 Fencing Exposed Parts, Machinery	—
18 Protection of Young Persons from Dangerous Machinery	—
19 Training of Young Persons working at Dangerous Machinery	—
23 Prohibition of Heavy Work	—
24 First Aid General Provisions	19
Total ...	<hr/> 54 <hr/>

All the contraventions found during the year were dealt with informally and have now been remedied.

HOUSING

During the year the housing register was revised and all applicants who had made application for housing accommodation up to the 31st December, 1967, were requested by letter, to provide certain particulars in order to bring their application up to date. Altogether 532 forms were sent from this office and 272 were returned giving the necessary information. This latter figure, together with the new applications received during the year indicated that at the 31st October, 1968, the position was as follows:

Number of applicants requiring House accommodation	290
Number of applicants requiring Bungalow or Flat accommodation	103
Total number of applicants on register	393

During the year 66 casual vacancies occurred, which includes 15 re-lettings to employees of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, and 3re-lettings to Western Command Staff, in other words only 48 properties became available for re-letting to applicants on the housing register. Also during the year approval was given for 20 exchanges.

No Council property was built in 1968.

Council Houses are distributed in the area as follows:

Parish	No. of Houses
Backford	23
Barrow	48
Capenhurst	22
Christleton	110
Christleton (Flats)	12
Dodleston	35
Dunham-on-Hill	56
Elton	24
Great Boughton... ..	155
Guilden Sutton	46
Hapsford	6
Huntington... ..	58
Lea-by-Backford	8
Lea Newbold	2
Littleton	24
Little Stanney	6
Lower Kinnerton	10
Mickle Trafford	42
Mollington	10
Pulford	26
Saughall	256
Shotwick	2

Parish	No. of Houses
Stoak	30
Stoak (Flats)	4
Thornton-le-Moors	22
Upton-by-Chester	374
Upton-by-Chester (Flats)	34
Wimbolds Trafford	14
Woodbank	4
Total ...	<hr/> 1463 <hr/>

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A regular weekly service has been maintained to all premises in the District, despite the usual labour shortages, and a twice weekly collection from certain business premises, for which a charge of 1s. for each dustbin emptied on the second collection is made; the income from these special collections during the year amounted to £421.

Details of staff and vehicles employed in the service are given below:

Staff

Foreman	1
Drivers	6
Relief Drivers	4
Refuse Collectors	18
Depot	1
Tip Controllers	2
Maintenance Mechanic	1
Total ...	<hr/> 33 <hr/>

Vehicles

60 cu. yd. Pakamatic Vehicles	1
35 cu. yd. Pakamatic Vehicles	2
20 cu. yd. Pakamatic Vehicles	1
26 cu. yd. Fore and Aft Tipper with Pressure Plate (Special Collection)	1
16-18 cu. yd. Fore and Aft Tipper (Spare Vehicle) ...	1
Drott Crawler Tractor	1
35 cwt. Dumper Truck	1
5 cwt. Van	1
Total ...	<hr/> 9 <hr/>

I have set out in detail below the number of men who were engaged and left the service during the year:

	Men
Interviewed at office and offered employment	81
Number of previous figure who reported for duty ...	72
Number of men who started and left within the year ...	62

Of these 62 men:

Seventeen left within the first week.

Nineteen left within the first month.

Twelve left within two months.

Three left within three months.

Six left within six months.

Five left after working between six and twelve months.

Nine men who were engaged did not report for duty.

Now that the alterations and improvements to the Depot have been completed, together with the gradual extension of the paper sack system of refuse collection to the entire rural district, I hope that it will be possible to attract and retain the type of person who wants regular employment, and I feel when considering the above figures that the Foreman deserves a special mention for his efforts to maintain the weekly service during periods of acute staff shortages.

Controlled tipping is still being carried out at the rear of the Deva Hospital, and it will soon be necessary for a determined attempt to be made for more tipping space and I still feel that direct incineration is the most satisfactory way of dealing with the ever increasing volume of household refuse, as estimates from several sources indicate that the volume will continue to increase over the years at an average rate of 4 per cent. I can only, therefore, express the personal hope that the meetings which have been held with various authorities will eventually result in a joint incinerator receiving refuse from a wide area.

A determined effort was made during the year to clear rubbish dumped on verges in the area, and in an attempt to prevent further dumping, included on all rate demand notices was a statement to the effect that this Authority would collect, free of charge, all unwanted household waste, including motor vehicles if the registration book was surrendered, this service, as it becomes known and accepted, will I am sure, go a long way to preventing the illegal dumping of rubbish.

Approximately 11,250 dustbins are emptied weekly, plus on average 30 special collections from houses of unwanted furniture, in addition, when staff is available any rubbish deposited on verges is collected.

The refuse vehicles covered a total of 44,052 miles and the special collection vehicle 7,372 miles, the total cost of the refuse collection and disposal service was £41,857 0s. 0d.

Cesspool Emptying

The practice of emptying private septic tanks and cesspools at a standard charge of £1 0s. 0d. was continued, business premises being charged on a time and mileage basis. The various Council sewerage plants are also emptied when necessary and a small number of pail closets, in cases where the person concerned is physically incapable of performing this task themselves.

A service is also provided for clearing choked drains at private dwellings at a fixed charge of 10s. 6d.

Details of work carried out

Number of Septic Tanks and Cesspools emptied	350
Number of Private Drains cleared	135
Vehicle mileage during the year	12,465

Abandoned Vehicles

During the year action was taken under the Civic Amenities Act and various Regulations to secure the removal of motor vehicles apparently abandoned in the district, and the following table gives details of the action taken:

Number of cars removed by Local Authority	28
Number of cars removed by owner	9
Number of cars left on Council tip	4
	<hr/>
	41

Cost to Council for removal of cars: £52 0s. 0d.

Meat Inspection

There is one private licensed slaughterhouse in the area situated at Chorlton-by-Backford, and as in previous years a considerable amount of slaughtering has taken place outside normal working hours.

From the 1st April, 1968, the Council resolved to make a charge as follows in respect of meat inspected:

2s. 6d. per Bovine animal.

9d. per Calf or Pig.

6d. per Sheep, Lamb or Goat.

The income during the year for meat inspection amounted to £927 11s. 9d.

The table below gives details of the animals slaughtered and inspected, and show a considerable increase over the previous year's total of 13,895.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed ...	2671	400	1642	14970	2968	22651
Number not inspected	—	—	—	—	—	—

All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Whole carcasses condemned	—	3	31	21	5	60
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	532	231	14	1697	993	3467

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	12	12

Cysticerci

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6	7	—	—	—	13
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration ...	6	7	—	—	—	13
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

	Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Meat at Slaughterhouses	8	17	65
Meat at Wholesale Premises	—	—	30
Meat at Retail Shops	—	1	9
Fish	—	—	28
Canned Foods	—	—	—
Other Foods	—	—	—
	8	19	20

Poultry Inspection

There is only one poultry slaughtering establishment in the district with an approximate annual throughput of 1,500 birds. The Public Health Inspectors make regular visits to this establishment to ensure that hygienic conditions are maintained.

None of these birds were rejected as unfit for human consumption.

School Inspections

All schools in the area, including private and kindergarten schools, receive regular inspections under the provisions of The Standards for School Premises Regulations, 1959, and where applicable the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the area.

Clean Air Act

Observations have been made of smoke emissions from certain industrial chimneys in the district and written warnings issued. It has not, however, been necessary to take formal action. There are no smoke control areas in the district at the time of writing this report.

Rodent Control

There are two Rodent Operatives employed in the district, both of whom are supplied with a 5 cwt. van. During the year your operatives covered a total of 18,463 miles carrying out treatments to various premises.

The following table summarises the visits made:

Private Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1127
Agricultural Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	212
Business Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	398
Contracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1581
Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1090
Sewage Disposal Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	198
Refuse Tip	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
									<hr/> 4696 <hr/>

Number of poison baits laid: 9,370.

Income from Contracts for the eradication of rats: £994 8s. 6d.

A systematic test baiting of the manholes in all the parishes connected to a main drainage system has been carried out.

Ice Cream

There are 33 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and all of these sell the pre-wrapped variety.

The following samples were obtained during the year with the results as indicated:

Number of samples Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of samples Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of samples Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of samples Grade 4	...	...	...	...	...	—
						<hr/>
Total samples						9 <hr/>

Food Complaints

Arising out of complaints made at the office, the following investigations were carried out with the results as indicated.

Bread—2 complaints.

The first complaint concerned bread affected with a mould growth and an investigation revealed that there had been an error in delivery procedure, the shopkeeper was, therefore, cautioned.

The second complaint was in respect of bread delivered to premises in the district which was found to contain a mouse dropping. The baker pleaded guilty in the Magistrates' Court and was fined a total of £24 8s. 0d.

Milk—3 complaints.

Two of the above complaints were in respect of particles of grit in bottled milk and one complaint concerned a milk bottle, the inner surface of which was contaminated with miscellaneous dirt.

As a result of representations to the dairy companies concerned, certain alterations were carried out to the bottle washing plants, and the inspection procedure and assurances were received that every effort would be made to prevent a recurrence.

Tinned Food.

The complainant stated that a piece of string had been found in a tin of green beans. The manufacturers took this up with the canners in South Africa and sincere apologies were also made to the complainant; it was, therefore, decided not to prosecute on this occasion.

Meat Pies.

This complaint relates to meat pies, which on being cut open revealed a mould growth. Investigations showed that storage arrangements at the shop left much to be desired, also the manufacturer and the person making the delivery could not agree when the pies in question had been produced. A strong warning was given to the shopkeeper and also advice regarding the temperature at which certain foods should be kept.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There are 13 licensed residential caravan sites in the district involving a total of 213 caravans.

During the year 40 detailed inspections of these sites were carried out in order to ensure that the Site Licence conditions were being complied with.

The four relatively slight infringements which were noted were soon remedied, and it was not necessary during the year for proceedings to be taken under the above Act.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Number of houses rendered fit

	Section 9, 10, 16 and 24, Housing Act, 1957		Public Health and similar Local Acts		Totals	
	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
(a) By Owner ...	—	—	883	4	883	4
(b) By Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	—	—	883	4	883	4

HOUSING ACT, 1957

Individual Unfit Houses

Number of Undertakings accepted (Section 16) ...	2
Number of Closing Orders made (Section 17) ...	3
Number of Demolition Orders made (Section 17) ...	11
Number of Closing Orders made (Section 18) ...	—
Number of Closing Orders determined (Section 27) ...	—
Number of Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders substituted (Section 28) ...	—
Number of Houses demolished following Demolition Orders ...	—
Number of people displaced:	
(a) Individuals ...	31
(b) Families ...	12

No Clearance Areas were represented during the year.

Rent Act, 1957

No applications received under this Act.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

There are five boarding establishments licensed under the above Act and periodic inspections are made of the premises concerned.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928-1936

82 licences were issued by this Authority for the storage of petroleum spirit at premises in the district and routine inspections of licensed premises are carried out by the Public Health Inspectors and officials of the Cheshire County Fire Brigade. As a result of these inspections 7 pressure tests have been applied to storage tanks and pipe lines at various premises and 2 tanks failed the test.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Frequent visits are made to all food premises in the district including schools and hospital kitchens and the general standard is satisfactory.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/68 the premises are set out in detail below:

	Total No.	Complying with Reg: 16 (w.h.b.)	Complying with Reg: 19 (sink)
Cafes and Restaurants ...	18	18	18
Food Preparation Premises	55	55	55
Bakehouses	4	4	4
Public Houses	27	27	27
Shops	43	43	Not applicable
Total ...	147		

Foods and Drugs Act, 1955

The following information has been supplied by Mr. W. K. Nattrass, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council, in respect of samples obtained in this area during 1968:

Name of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised Standard or quality
Almonds, ground	1	
Beer, canned	1	
Biscuits, digestive	1	
Bi-so-dol Tablets	1	
Blackcurrant drink	1	
Brandy	1	
Bread	1	1
Butter	1	
Branston Pickle	1	
Carrots	1	
Cauliflower	1	
Cake (Butter madeira)	1	
Cheese, Cheshire	1	
Cheese (dried, grated)	1	
Chicken stock cubes	1	
Cider	1	
Coconut, desiccated	1	
Coffee, pure	1	
Coffee and Chicory essence ...	1	
Cream, tinned	1	
Curry powder	1	

Name of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised Standard or quality
Dripping	1	
Fish Cakes, salmon	1	
Fruit Sauce	1	
Fruit mixture, dried	1	
Fudge, buttered	1	
Gravy Browning	1	
Honey	1	
Ice Cream, dairy	1	
Jellies, table	1	
Lard	1	
Lemon Curd	1	
Lemon flavouring	1	
Lettuce	1	
Malt Extract B.P.C.	1	
Margarine	1	
Marmalade	1	
Milk	100	1
Milk (full cream evaporated) ...	1	
Mustard	1	
Non-brewed Condiment	1	
Onions, dried sliced	1	
Oranges	1	
Orange Crush	1	
Pepper	1	
Perry Champagne	1	
Rum	1	
Salad Cream	1	
Salmon Spread	1	
Sausage, beef	1	
Sausage, pork	3	
Soft drink	1	
Spread, beef	1	
Spread, cheese with ham	1	
Strawberries, tinned	1	
Suet, beef shredded	1	
Sugar, demerara	1	
Surgical Spirit (strained) B.P.C.	1	
Syrup, golden	1	
Tomato Sauce	1	
Treacle	1	
Vegetables and Chicken	1	
Vodka	1	
	<hr/> 164 <hr/>	<hr/> 2 <hr/>

Particulars of Samples not up to Standard

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1.	Milk	Inside of bottle was stained with carbon particles and miscellaneous dirt, some had become detached and was contaminating the milk.	Bottlers fined £20 with £4 14s. costs.
2.	Bread	Contained animal hairs.	Bakers fined £75 with £4 14s. costs.

Particulars of Food Complaints from Private Purchasers

No.	From	Nature	Remarks
1.	Housewife	Milk bottle stained extensively with carbon particles.	See No. 1 on Samples list.
2.	Housewife	Loaf of bread containing dark animal hairs.	See No. 2 on Samples list.
3.	Housewife	Beef sausages contaminated with mould.	Makers fined £10.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The following tables give details of the inspections carried out of the various factories in the district during the year. The 7 defects noted were remedied soon after the owner's attention had been drawn, by letter, to the work required.

	Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...		2	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority...		53	109	—	—

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority —(excluding out- workers' premises)	31	31	—	—
Total	86	142	—	—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecut- ions were Instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspect- or (4)	By H.M. Inspect- or (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	6	6	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventil- ation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not inc. offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	7	—	—	—

Outwork

There are 8 outworkers on the register.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**South-West Cheshire
Divisional Health Committee**

ANNUAL REPORT

1968

**DR. W. A. POLLITT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Divisional Medical Officer)**

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Annual Report on the Health Services of the South-West Cheshire Division for the Year 1968

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Divisional Health Services for the year 1968. The Division comprises of the Borough of Ellesmere Port and the Rural Districts of Chester and Tarvin.

The total population has increased from 103,170 in 1967 to 105,750 in 1968. The area of the Division is 115,584 acres.

There have been several policy decisions by the County Health Committee during the year which have affected the services supplied by the Divisional Health Committee. One of these decisions was to stop the sale of branded infant foods in the Welfare Centres as recommended by the Sheldon Committee on Child Welfare Centres. The National Dried and other Ministry Welfare Foods continue to be supplied by the Clinics as in the past. The cessation of the sale of the branded foods was put into effect in December 1968, and, therefore, the major effects will only be noticed in the ensuing year. There are, however, two clinics at which branded infant foods continue to be sold for the time being, as there are no alternative commercial sources of supply within the vicinity, and these are situated at Ashton and Barrow.

The policy concerning the financial assistances to handicapped persons where adaptation of their house is required has also been varied. The variation does not apply to houses owned by the County District Councils, but where a privately owned house is either rented or owner-occupied the previous method of giving loans will cease and grants will be made by the County Council when the alterations cost less than £300. In instances where the cost exceeds £300, Committee approval will be obtained, and should the County Land Agent consider the adaptations enhances the value of the property, the financial assistance will be given as an interest free loan. The revised arrangements should eliminate unavoidable delay due to the previous procedures.

As mentioned in the body of the report the Waverton Club started in May of this year, and after a slow start, partly due to staff changes and also some difficulty in providing suitable transport to convey members to the Club, the numbers have slowly built up, and at the end of the year there were seven members attending. It is hoped that this will increase considerably next year as we now have Mrs. Measures, the Occupational Therapist, attending regularly, and also the transport situation should be considerably improved.

During the year two rooms were rented in Malpas, primarily for the benefit of the School Health Service, but in addition will

be beneficial to the children in the under school age group. The intention is that a periodic Eye Clinic will be held by one of the Specialist Ophthalmologists employed by the County Council, and also at other times the rooms will be used by the Speech Therapists, the Teacher of the Deaf, the Health Visitor, who will use the rooms for screening tests and hearing, and also for other examinations which which she may wish to carry out which are are not appropriate to the normal child welfare sessions, and lastly the School Medical Officer will have these facilities available to him if he wishes to undertake special examinations of school children.

During the year the gradual transfer of Specialist Clinics from Upton Clinic Centre to the combined Clinic Centre at Princess Street, Chester, has taken place. These Clinics include the Cervical Cytology Clinic, the Eye Clinic, the sessions run by the Speech Therapist and the Teacher of the Deaf, and also special sessions by the School Medical Officer. Parents attending from the Rural Districts have found this a considerable benefit as the previous arrangements required a second 'bus journey out to Upton, which has now been eliminated.

Measles vaccination, which has long been awaited, finally came into being in the latter part of the year, initially children of the pre-school and early school years were offered immunisation. The eventual intention of the Ministry policy being that when the high risk group had been immunised that the scheme should extend to all children in the school range and also be included as the routine in the normal immunisation procedures of children from six months of age onwards.

Mrs. Chroston, Matron of the Day Nursery, retired on the 31st August after twenty-one years' service with the County Council. It was a token of the recognition of Mrs. Chroston's outstanding service that Members of the Committee contributed towards a gift which was presented to Mrs. Chroston by the Mayor of Ellesmere Port in the Mayor's Parlour, following a Divisional Health Committee meeting. Mrs. Chroston has been appointed as a part-time lecturer to the course training Nursery nurses at Birkenhead.

In the section of the report detailing the Home Help Service I have made suggestions concerning the statistical methods by which the efficiency of the service may be judged.

I wish to refer my appreciation of the support received from the Chairman and Members of the Committee throughout the year, to the County Medical Officer and his staff for their generous help, to Mr. R. J. Bernie, Clerk to the Committee, and to the clerical staff for their co-operation on all occasions.

W. A. POLLITT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Divisional Medical Officer.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SOUTH-WEST CHESHIRE DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Report for the Year ended 31st December, 1968

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Ante-Natal Clinics

There are two Ante-Natal Clinics held in the Division. These Clinics are staffed by Consultant Obstetricians, Midwives and Health Visitors. Mothers also attend at these Clinics for Post-Natal examination. Whilst the numbers attending the Ante-Natal Clinics are steadily increasing, the numbers of mothers who return for a Post-Natal check-up after their baby is born is very disappointing. The Post-Natal examination is important as many small gynaecological abnormalities can be corrected at this stage and save the mother suffering from minor ill health and discomforts in the future.

In addition to the Ante-Natal Clinics held in Ellesmere Port there is also a Midwives' Ante-Natal and Preparation Clinic at the Weston Grove Clinic Centre, Upton.

Instruction is provided in mothercraft for those attending the Ante-Natal Clinics by means of talks, demonstrations, discussion groups and the showing of film strips and films. Relaxation classes are held in conjunction with the Ante-Natal Clinics.

Attendance figures at the two Clinics are set out below. These show an increase in attendance for the Ante-Natal Clinics, but a regrettable fall in attendance for Post-Natal examination.

	ANTE-NATAL		POST-NATAL	
	New Cases	Total Attendances	New Cases	Total Attendances
Ellesmere Port ...	534	2397	72	76
Great Sutton ...	226	1192	44	44

Dental facilities are available free of charge to expectant and nursing mothers, and during the year 52 women received treatment.

Clinics for Ante-Natal and Post-Natal mothers are held as follows:

Ante-Natal Clinics

Welfare Centre, Stanney Lane, Ellesmere Port—

Monday morning and Wednesday afternoon each week.

Welfare Centre, Old Chester Road, Great Sutton—

Wednesday morning each week.

Midwives' Clinics and Preparation Clinics

Welfare Centre, Stanney Lane, Ellesmere Port—
Monday afternoon each week.

Welfare Centre, Old Chester Road, Great Sutton—
Wednesday afternoon each week.

Welfare Centre, Weston Grove, Upton—
Monday and Friday afternoon each week.

Dental treatment is available to expectant mothers by appointment at the above Clinics.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

There has been an alteration in the policy affecting Child Welfare Centres due to a changing attitude to the type of work and assistance these clinics should give to mothers. Instead of frequent attendances at the clinics especially during the child's early months which then tail off as the child becomes older to very infrequent and often non-attendance in the child's second, third and fourth years of life. At the present time mothers are encouraged to attend as soon as possible after the birth of the child and they are then given appointments to attend at certain intervals during the child's life for periodic check-ups of progress that the child is making both physically and mentally. It is thought that this is of greater value than the random attendances that mothers made with their children in previous years.

If, however, a mother has a specific fear or worry which she wishes to discuss with either the Health Visitor or the Doctor she can attend at any normal clinic session without waiting for an appointment, and she would be seen straight away.

During the year the clinic held in the Village Hall at Elton was destroyed by fire. However, we were fortunate to secure the premises of the staff club at the Ince Power Station, and the clinics were able to be transferred to the new venue without any serious disruption to the services provided. The existing premises are proving extremely suitable and also the situation is acceptable to the majority of mothers in the area as it is near to the caravan site, where the bulk of the child population at present exists.

The Tarvin Clinic was also moved during the year. This has for many years been held in the Vicarage at Tarvin, but for some time now, owing to the increase in population and the subsequent increase in attendances at the clinic, these rooms have been proving inadequate for the number of mothers and children attending and had created a problem for the clinic doctor as he was obliged to try and examine babies behind a screen in a very crowded and noisy room.

We were fortunate in securing facilities in the Tarvin C. of E. School which has recently been released by the Education Committee following the building of a County Primary School in the neighbourhood.

This has given us a larger premises which will allow for future expansion.

New Cases and attendances at individual clinics:

	New Cases		Total Attendances	
	0—1	0—1	1—2	2—5
Ashton	46	421	135	57
Barrow	21	125	72	52
Christleton	37	322	77	105
Elton	21	146	108	14
Farndon	29	204	121	89
Great Boughton	51	350	84	71
Huntington	29	172	128	61
Kelsall	30	345	159	127
Malpas	55	392	80	105
Saughall	58	380	153	115
Tarvin	60	488	168	83
Tattenhall	20	311	79	23
Upton	191	1656	305	99
Vicar's Cross	150	1435	234	229
Waverton	53	512	113	55
E. Port (Stanney Lane)	562	2973	453	239
„ (Westminster)	150	1530	476	352
Great Sutton	280	1380	155	65
Little Sutton				
(Community Centre ...	120	927	150	21
	<hr/> 1963	<hr/> 14069	<hr/> 3250	<hr/> 1972

Attendances of children under 5 at the following Specialist Clinics:

	New Cases	Total Attendances
Ophthalmic	35	114
E.N.T. under 5	4	5

DENTAL CLINICS

	No. of Inspections	No. of Visits	No. of Extractions	No. of Fillings
Children 0—5 years	146	274	206	132
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	12	52	31	23

Dentures supplied: 5

SCREENING CLINICS

	New Cases	Re-Tests	Passed	Failed
Ellesmere Port	510	43	490	63
Farndon	17	—	17	—
Great Boughton	71	1	71	1
Great Sutton	230	5	229	6
Tarvin	44	1	45	—
Upton	159	15	142	32
	<hr/> 1031	<hr/> 65	<hr/> 994	<hr/> 102

Screening Tests of Hearing

Health Visitors who have been specially trained in the technique carry out routine tests of hearing on babies of nine months and over at the Child Welfare Clinics.

AUDIOLOGY CLINICS

UNDER 5		OVER 5	
1st Visit	Re-Visit	1st Visit	Re-Visit
8	1	2	5

Where necessary, children are referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics staffed by Consultant Surgeons and to Professor Taylor and his colleagues from the Manchester University Department for Education of the Deaf. These Clinics deal with children of pre-school age and of school age having hearing defects.

Phenylketenuria

All babies are tested by Health Visitors either at home or in a Clinic for phenylketenuria. Up till now this has been by the testing of urine, usually on a wet nappy, with a specially impregnated piece of paper which, if giving rise to a colour change, indicated the presence of this condition which is one of the causes of backwardness in children.

The early recognition of this illness in children means that any further deterioration can be prevented by putting the child on a special diet. The earlier the child is placed on the diet the better the outlook and it is because of this a test, which has recently been introduced, is being put into operation in the County Council area. This is called the Guthrie Test and is carried out at the seventh or eighth day after birth and involves getting a spot of blood from a pin prick on the baby's heel. This is collected on some special absorbent paper and the paper is then sent to a laboratory for testing.

This new test is more accurate and is able to be made at a much earlier age than the old test, which was done on the baby's

wet napkin; thereby ensuring greater accuracy in the screening procedure. Also the children that are found to be positive are placed on the diet at a much earlier age, before any serious damage to their brain takes place.

DAY NURSERY

As mentioned in the introduction to the report, Mrs. Chroston resigned as Matron to the Day Nursery after twenty-one years working for the County Council. Mrs. Chroston was succeeded in the post of Matron by Mrs. Pembleton, who was the Deputy Matron. Also another long serving member of staff, Mrs. Poppleton, left during the year. She has had fifteen years' service with the County Council working in the Day Nursery.

In November we had quite a severe and prolonged outbreak of dysentery affecting the staff and children of the Day Nursery. The disease itself was fairly mild, but it was extremely persistent and difficult to eradicate. Two members of the staff and thirty children were infected before the nursery was finally declared clear of infection early in January, 1969.

Another less disturbing occurrence during the year was the building of the new swimming baths adjacent to the Day Nursery. This necessitated a temporary fence being erected to the play space, reducing the area available to the children during the construction of boundary walls and the laying of drainage at the extremity of the swimming pool site. However, the final result has been that the play space has been increased by one and a half to two feet along the length of the boundary, and we have a new and more pleasing boundary fence which we are assured is unclimbable by children of this age group.

Facilities continue to be made available to local schools for the older girls to attend for training in mothercraft. Also students from several courses visited the nursery as part of their instruction in social services and technique of child care. These were Teacher Training Students, Pupil Health Visitors and Pupil Midwives. Also students on the Pre-Nursing Course at the College of Further Education.

Attendances throughout the year have fluctuated; whilst at times the Nursery is full to capacity, at other times there are, regrettably, occasions when attendances are poor. Some of the absences are due to the seasonal ailments. In other instances they are due to the lack of responsibility of social problem parents to their children, who for one reason or another fail to bring them to the nursery. Certain of the children are admitted for the benefit of the child not necessarily for the benefit of the parents, and whilst absences are to be deplored it is essential to keep the child's name on the register to ensure that as far as possible the child receives care, attention and nourishment.

Everything is done to encourage the parents to bring their children. Poor attenders are followed up by the Health Visitors and Child Care Officers.

The Nursery is a 50-place training nursery, and in an endeavour to maintain an average attendance near to this figure, we have had 65-70 children on the register. Further increases in the number on the register are impracticable due to the risk of severe overcrowding should attendances improve.

Cases were referred for admission from several sources. Parents, General Practitioners, Health Visitors, Assistant Medical Officers and the Area Children's Officer.

The Nursery is approved by the Ministry of Health as a training nursery for Nursery Students and during the year 2 Nursery Students were in training.

During 1968 one student sat the examination for the National Nursery Examination Board Certificate for Nursery Nurses and she was successful.

At the close of the year there were 65 children on the register all of whom were priority cases.

				Daily Average No. attending	Total Attendances
Aged 0—2 years	...	...	...	17.00	4120
„ 2—5 years	...	...	...	24.25	5982

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

Number of births during the year—2136 (including 19 still-births). (Adjusted for inward and outward transfers).

HOME HELP SERVICE

This service has been subject to some adverse criticism by the audit staff, who point out that the average hours per case per year are considerably higher than the average for the County as a whole.

The following figures indicate the trend since 1963:

1963—195.6	hours per case per year.				
1964—182.5	„	„	„	„	„
1965—180.2	„	„	„	„	„
1966—175.7	„	„	„	„	„
1967—155.0	„	„	„	„	„
1968—168.5	„	„	„	„	„

These statistics, however, do not reflect an exact picture of the hours individual cases are receiving, as a number of short term cases occurring during the year will bring the average for the division down quite dramatically. In this division, as can be seen

from the statistics, the bulk of our cases are of a long term nature. A statistic which should reflect the hours which individual cases are receiving is one where the average number of hours per case per week is given, as this cuts out the bias involved when the yearly average is used.

For this division the following figures indicate in 1967 the average number of hours per case per week was 6.31 and in 1968 the average number of hours per case per week was 6.02.

Number of persons supplied with Domestic Help:

1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
237	274	334	395	421	410	497	440

Number of Persons for whom there was a continued need for the supply of help as at 31st December of each year:

1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
136	169	193	218	229	237	308	284

Number of hours supplied:

1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
50,218	59,533	65,337	72,081	75,885	72,039	77,069	74,166

The following is a summary of Domestic Help supplied to persons with a continued need as at the 31st December, 1968:

1 case has been in receipt of help for 12 years.

5 cases have been in receipt of help for 9 years.

6	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	8	”
16	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	7	”
13	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	6	”
13	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	5	”
30	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	4	”
34	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	3	”
40	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	2	”
75	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	1	”
51	”	”	”	”	”	”	”	less than 1 year.	

440 persons received domestic help during the year and the following is an analysis of the types of cases to whom help was given:

(a)	Persons over 65	...	...	...	...	...	...	338
(b)	Chronic sick including T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
(c)	Mentally disordered	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(d)	Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
(e)	Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	35

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:

A.	No. of new applicants	...	...	...	...	...	321
	(of these 86 were cancelled)						

B.	No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31.12.68	121
C.	No. of cases attended during the year	440
D.	No. of cases of continued need at 31.12.68 ...	284
E.	Number of hours Domestic Help supplied ...	73,166
F.	Amount recovered from Future Recovery cases	£125-9-11
G.	8 cases were brought to the attention of the Committee during the year.	

In 2 Future Recovery cases recovery of the accumulative balance was approved.

In 5 cases arrears were cancelled.

In 1 case Deferred Payment was granted.

H. Convalescence

Six people were sent for convalescence during the year.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS—CARE AND AFTER-CARE

1. Tuberculosis

(a)	Removed from area	1
(b)	Recovered	5
(c)	Died	3
(d)	Number on the Register at the close of the year	574

2. Nursing Equipment

871 articles were loaned to elderly, nursing and handicapped persons during the year. The period of loan varies in accordance with the needs, in the first instance the loan is for three months which can be extended if required.

The Nursing Equipment is mainly stored at the Divisional Offices, Chester and Ellesmere Port. The following is a list of the various items held:

Invalid Wheelchairs.	Sputum Mugs.
Sheets, single.	Sputum Flasks.
Sheets, draw.	Hoyer Hoist.
Sheets, rubber-plastic.	Dunlopillo Mattresses.
Air rings.	Dunlopillo Cushions.
Walking Sticks.	Bed Cages.
Special Spastic Chair.	Nocturnal Enuresis Alarm.
Water / Air Beds.	Beds with Chain and Handle.
Bed Pulley.	3 & 4 legged Walking Aids.
Back Rests.	Commodes.
Bed Pans.	Crutches.
Urinals.	Special Toddler's Walking Aid.
Ramp.	Bonaped Walking Aid.
Helping Hand.	Fireguards.

In addition the District Nurse/Midwives in the Rural areas each have a small stock of the smaller items, bed pans, urinals, rubber sheets, etc.

3. Handicapped Persons

- (a) There are 251 cases on the handicapped persons register, many of whom are in employment. These cases are now having routine visits from an Occupational Therapist who assesses their needs, i.e. adaptations; occupational therapy; liaison with Disabled Resettlement Officer to obtain suitable employment; or encourage them to attend the Handicapped Club.
- (b) Number of persons in the area registered with the Chester and District Blind Welfare Society—154.
- (c) Number of persons partially sighted in the area registered with the Chester and District Blind Welfare Society—20.
- (d) Number of persons registered as Deaf and Dumb, Hard of Hearing—59.
- (e) Adaptations were carried out in the houses of 26 handicapped persons.

(f) Disabled Drivers' Car Badges

There were three applicants for Disabled Driver Car Badges.

At the close of the year there were 36 Disabled Car Drivers on the register.

ELLESMERE PORT HANDICAPPED PERSONS' CLUB 1968

Number of members—January 28; June 33; December 31.

Attendances—895.

During the year four patients died, one moved to another area, one returned to full employment and one to part-time.

Club Activities

Members again entered for the W.R.V.S. County Bulb Competition for Handicapped Clubs. Six members attended the finals at West Kirby.

In June the Club went to Llandudno for the day calling at St. Asaph for dinner on the way home.

In September the Gas Board came to York Road to give a Cookery Demonstration, and a party of 15 members went to stay at the British Polio Fellowship Hotel at Lytham St. Annes for one week.

In November an Open Afternoon and Sale of Work was held at York Road, and 8 members went to Liverpool to see the Christmas lights and to go to Lewis' shopping evening for Handicapped Clubs.

In December 18 members went to Chester for a Christmas shopping afternoon. The Club was assisted by the members of the King's School Mothers' Guild and boys from the 7th Form of the King's School. The Club was joined by the Waverton Handicapped Club for the afternoon.

The Christmas party was held in the Civic Hall. The party was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Ellesmere Port, six members from the Bromborough Club, six members from the Waverton Club and the friends of the Ellesmere Port Club members. The guests were entertained by Mr. Roscoe at the piano, Mr. Causon who sang, and the Parklands Dance Troup.

Helpers

During the year the Club has had the help of five W.R.V.S. helpers, Mrs. Coupe, Mrs. Hale, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Scott and Mrs. Davies, who all do a great deal for the patients.

FRIDAY CLUB

Numbers—15. During the year four members have died.

Attendances— 331.

During the year the Club has joined the Thursday Club in all their outings and special activities.

Helpers

During the year the Club has been staffed by the W.R.V.S., Mrs. Coupe, Mrs. Purslow, Mrs. Stanton and Mrs. Robertson, who also do a great deal for the patients.

DOMICILIARY VISITS

151 domiciliary visits were made during 1968, 68 patients, 36 of these were new patients. 9 of these patients were elderly, needing low baths, bath seats and toilet rails.

Three young patients have been referred by the Special School at Clatterbridge Hospital for structural alterations to their homes.

Five of the new patients have Disseminated Sclerosis. The others are suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis, Osteo Arthritis or are Hemiplegics.

During the year eight patients have been attending the Terapins Swimming Club at the Chester Baths on Monday evenings.

HANDICAPPED CLUB—WAVERTON

This Club commenced in May. The Club is held weekly on Mondays in the Waverton Village Hall. The Club is progressing reasonably well, at the close of the year there were seven registered members; this number will gradually increase during 1969.

In August a ‘Help the Handicapped Week’ was organised by the I.V.S. Members of the Club were taken on a tour of Chester and served with tea. A shopping tour of Chester and a visit to the Little Theatre was included in the week’s activities.

In September at the invitation of the Upton W.I. Dramatic Society, members saw a play, transport being provided by the I.V.S.

In December members visited the Ellesmere Port Club and had an enjoyable party at Christmas.

Some seventy domiciliary visits were made during the year.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS

Cervical Smear Clinics

Three Clinics, dealing with cervical smears, were continued during the year. They were located at Stanney Lane, Great Sutton and Chester Clinics.

Despite further advertising there has been a continued fall off in requests for this examination.

As well as testing for cancer of the cervix, the patients are also examined to eliminate cancer of the breast which is four times more prevalent than the cervical cancer.

Number attended	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	621
Number referred for further investigation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Number of treatable cancer conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Elderly Fit Persons Clinic

This Clinic is devised to provide a service for elderly who do not feel the need to attend their doctor. The Clinic gives a comprehensive medical check-up. The intention is that small defects or disabilities in their early stages can be found and treated before they become severe and also before they handicap the person. Often failing eye sight, increasing deafness or a foot defect can make a person frightened of tackling today’s traffic. Whereas with new glasses, a hearing aid or chiropody treatment these obstacles can be overcome.

The Clinic is held monthly at Stanney Lane Clinic and is staffed by a retired Health Visitor and a retired General Practitioner.

Number of first attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Number of subsequent attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

62

Number referred to own Doctor:

First attenders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Subsequent attenders	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
									35

Number referred to Chiropodist	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number referred to Cytology Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number referred to Dentist	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number needing slimming treatment	...	...	...	...	...	6

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Visitors and Medical Staff are giving talks to many voluntary societies and going into schools to give talks on different aspects of health and hygiene. To assist them a film projector or a slide projector and other aids are available for use during talks and discussions.

Senior pupils are encouraged to visit the Day Nursery and the Clinics at Stanney Lane and Weston Grove, Upton, by arrangements with the Domestic Science and Head Teachers.

Special features on selected items are on display at the main Clinics and the staff show considerable ingenuity in devising eye-catching arrangements.

A course for Wardens of Old People's Homes informing them of the services available from the department was organised in conjunction with Ellesmere Port Borough.

The Merseyside Committee on Cancer Education has resulted in many voluntary societies having lectures on this most important subject.

In the autumn a County Health Organiser was appointed to co-ordinate the programme of Health Education and to give advice on presentation of subjects to audiences.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

At the commencement of the year there were 831 persons on the register for Chiropody treatment. During the year a further 162 applications were received of whom 126 were granted treatment free of charge, 16 at half cost, 23 were not eligible. At the end of the year there were 882 persons on the register receiving Chiropody treatment.

Details of service provided

Place of Treatment	OVER 65		PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED	
	No. of Patients	No. of Treatments	No. of Patients	No. of Treatments
Chiropodist's Surgery	441	2516	4	23
Home of Patient	428	2210	9	57

Number of cases in which the County Council paid full fee: 812.

Number of cases in which the County Council paid part fee: 70.

The service is available to persons over the age of 65 years, physically handicapped persons and expectant mothers recommended for such treatment by their family doctor or district nurse. Persons who receive any National Assistance benefit or whose sole income is the National Retirement Pension, are eligible for free treatment under the provisions of the scheme. Persons in receipt of an income from other sources may have to pay towards the cost of the treatment, depending on the amount of the additional income. Treatment in the first instance is monthly for the first six months, thereafter alternate months, unless a recommendation is received from either the patient's doctor, the district nurse or the chiropodist, requesting further monthly treatment.

The patients are allowed to choose from a list of recognised Chiropodists the Chiropodist they wish to attend for treatment. In some cases when the patient cannot attend the Chiropodist's surgery the Chiropodist can visit the patient at his / her home.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Adult Training Centre

Attendances throughout the year have been 18,272 attendances out of a possible 20,282, the absences being mainly due to hospitalisation, short term care, parents' holidays and casual absences.

Number on the register at the commencement of the year	96
Number on the register at the close of the year	... .. 96
Trainees placed in employment	... .. 4
Trainees re-admitted from employment	... .. Nil

Contract consignments have fluctuated during the year depending on each individual firm's requirements. As a result there are times when the Centre has little contract work on hand, and at other times working to capacity. One firm for whom we have been engaged on contract work for five years has increased their payment by 50 per cent. In addition to the contract work the trainees are engaged in handcraft, woodwork, metalwork, basketry, etc., and homecraft.

The work on the new extension is under way and should be completed in 1969. The Centre is now fitted with an inter-telephone communication system, which is proving of great assistance to the staff.

Two of the trainees received prizes for swimming, one a silver cup, and the other a shield. Another trainee who had been in the Centre for nearly four years, is now married, and is settling down happily as a housewife. Four trainees have been placed in employment during the year, and all appear to have settled down in their employment and their new environment.

The Centre now boasts a football team; parents have fitted their sons with football boots, jerseys and stockings will be bought, and it is hoped to arrange fixtures with other Centres and Boys' Clubs. The boys have had several five-a-side games which they have thoroughly enjoyed.

All the trainees and staff were twice entertained by the Ellesmere Port branch of the British Legion at their headquarters. Three coffee evenings were arranged between parents and staff, at which "helpful and healthy" discussions took place in a very friendly atmosphere. Friday afternoons, work permitting, is usually devoted to social activities, country dancing, etc.

The Shell Refinery has presented the Centre with an 8 m.m. Cine Projector and an 8 m.m. Camera, both of which will be used for filming activities of the Centre and showing of educational films. The projector will be of particular value to the Social Training Unit.

VACCINATION OF PERSONS UNDER AGE 16 COMPLETED DURING 1968

A. Completed Primary Course—Number of persons under age 16

Type of Vaccine or Dose	Year of Birth					Others under age 16	Total	
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961- 1964		At Clinics	By G.P.s
1. Quadruple DTPP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Triple DTPP	691	802	108	30	38	4	858	815
3. Diphtheria/Pertussis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria/Tetanus	—	—	—	2	3	3	3	5
5. Diphtheria	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
6. Pertussis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Tetanus	—	—	—	—	3	19	1	21
8. Salk (Poliomyelitis)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Sabin ,,	682	809	115	42	48	12	894	814
10. Measles	10	123	266	297	905	67	890	778

B. Reinforcing Doses—Number of persons under age 16

Type of Vaccine or Dose	Year of Birth					Others under age 16	Total	
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961- 1964		At Clinics	By G.P.s
1. Quadruple DTPP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Triple DTPP	—	421	760	53	379	44	717	940
3. Diphtheria/Pertussis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
4. Diphtheria/Tetanus	—	—	1	11	822	53	774	113
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	8	1	3	6
6. Pertussis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
7. Tetanus	—	—	—	1	6	5	—	12
8. Salk (Poliomyelitis)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Sabin „	1	161	151	45	1100	91	930	619
10. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The above figures include boosters done in schools.

C. Smallpox Vaccination

Number of Persons	Year of Birth					Others under age 16	Total	
	1968	1967	1966	1965- 1963	1962- 1963		At Clinics	By G.P.s
1. Vaccinated	24	1006	439	173	52	—	769	925
2. Re-Vaccinated	—	1	1	9	45	—	1	55

B.C.G. VACCINATION

No. of Consent Forms issued	1028
No. of Consent Forms returned with parents' consent	831
No. of Children Skin Tested	730
No. of Children positive to Skin Test	106
No. of Children negative to Skin Test	624
No. of Children B.C.G. Vaccinated	582

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1968

	Dysentery		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Pneumonia		Food Poisoning	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Ellesmere Port Municipal Borough	29	30	1	—	1	1	293	235	—	—	1	—
Chester Rural District	12	18	4	4	4	1	41	46	—	—	5	1
Tarvin Rural District	—	—	3	4	4	3	27	37	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	41	48	8	8	9	5	361	318	1	—	6	1

STATISTICS RELATING TO CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON NOTIFICATION REGISTERS OF DISTRICT COUNCILS IN THE DIVISION

	MALES			FEMALES			TOTAL	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary Total
1. Cases on Register at 1.1.68 ...	242	70	312	205	55	260	447	125 572
2. Cases notified and transfers into area during the year ...	6	—	6	4	1	5	10	1 11
3. Number of Cases removed from Register during the year	4	1	5	4	—	4	8	1 9
4. Cases on Register at 31.12.68	244	69	313	205	56	261	449	125 574

* This figure is made up as follows:

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1. Ellesmere Port M.B.	200	44	244
2. Chester R.D.C. ...	158	41	199
3. Tarvin R.D.C. ...	91	40	131
	<u>449</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>574</u>

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